

TIME TO RENDEZVOUS HISTORY COMES ALIVE ON THE RIVER

The land along the Minnesota River bluffs where Native Americans, fur traders and settlers once lived, holds a history as deep and as rich as its soil.

Native Americans subsisted off the land by hunting, gathering and farming. This is also where missionary Gideon Pond eventually settled and built his home in 1856.

It may be hard to imagine that the river bluffs were once populated by the villages of the Dakota Indians. A visit to the City's River Rendezvous at Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 East 104th Street, on **Saturday**,

September 25, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., may help spark your imagination.

Since it began in 1995, River Rendezvous has demonstrated the lifestyles of people living in Minnesota between 1830 and 1870 through storytelling and interactive, hands-on demonstrations. You'll learn about early trades and crafts, the fur trade and pioneer life, while enjoying festive music and dance.



For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877.

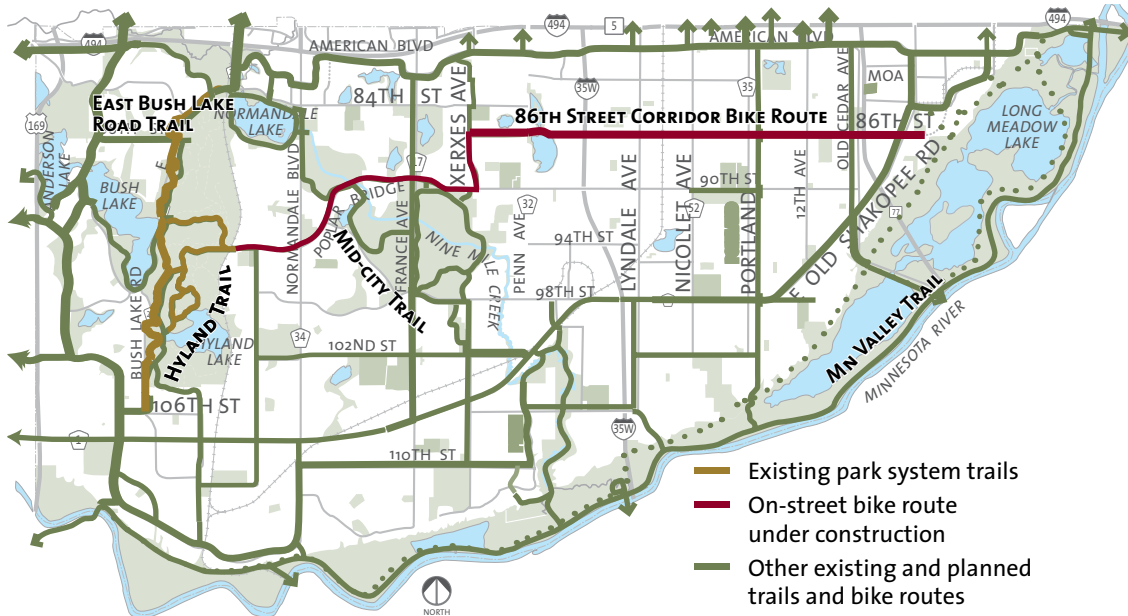
WEBSITE KEYWORD: RENDEZVOUS.

BIKEABLE, WALKABLE BLOOMINGTON TRAIL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY

During the City's strategic planning process to develop *Imagine Bloomington 2025*, Bloomington residents indicated that bicycle and walking trails were their number one desired recreational amenity.

As part of implementing *Imagine Bloomington 2025*, the City created the *Alternative Transportation Plan*, a blueprint for a system that encourages walking and biking and increases quality of life for all Bloomington residents.

The Plan includes recommendations for building more trails and improving existing trails, walkways and other pedestrian-level infrastructure. Many trail improvements have already been completed or are in progress.



The pedestrian and bike trail along East Bush Lake Road from 106th to 84th streets was completed in 2008. The trail provides non-motorized access from the various residential and office developments to Hyland Park Reserve, Bush Lake Beach, Richardson Nature Preserve, Forest Glen Trail and Normandale Lake.

The *Alternative Transportation Plan* recently identified a primary east-west corridor for bike and pedestrian trips that runs from Hyland Park along West 94th Street to Poplar Bridge Road; 90th Street from France Avenue to Xerxes Avenue; and 86th Street to East Old Shakopee Road. The corridor will provide trail access to destinations such as City parks, schools and commercial centers including the Mall of America.

This year, the City Council voted to convert portions of 86th Street between Xerxes Avenue and East Old Shakopee Road from a four-lane to a three-lane configuration with one lane in each direction, a continuous dual left-turn lane and bike lanes on each side.

The long-term changes approved for 86th Street include improvements at Lyndale Avenue to continue the bike route through the intersection, along with safety improvements to the intersections of 86th Street, and Nicollet and Portland avenues.

Bloomington Public Health also plays a role in ensuring the city is more pedestrian friendly. The Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) is helping to support street designs that accommodate walking and biking. Through SHIP, new bike racks were recently installed at schools and other locations throughout the city. *See page 5.*

In addition, the City has a Transportation Demand Management Plan to promote efficient use of existing transportation facilities, reduce traffic congestion and vehicle pollution, and ensure that new developments are designed in ways that increase the use of bikes, sidewalks and transit.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SUSTAINABILITY.

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When you see **WEBSITE KEYWORDS**, go to www.ci.bloomington.mn.us for more information.



FRESH AND LOCAL FARMERS MARKET DELIVERS

The fourth annual Farmers Market opened June 12 with fresh, locally grown foods, cooking demonstrations, entertainment and kids' activities.

The Farmers Market takes place at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, **every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., through October 16.** For more information, call Farmers Market Coordinator Keri Lahl at 952-563-8877.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FARMERS MARKET.

AWARD WINNING CITY WINS BIG IN COMPETITION

The City brought home three Awards of Excellence at the Minnesota Association of Government Communicators' (MAGC) Northern Lights Awards for the *Briefing, 2009 Corporate Report to the Community* and the *Insider*, the City's internal newsletter. The *Briefing* and *Corporate Report* were also "Best of Show" nominees, two of only 12 award-winning entries nominated for this honor. Out of the 26 awards Bloomington has received from this local contest since 2004, 20 were Awards of Excellence.

BOOK 'EM ANOTHER RECORD SALE

The Book 'em used book sale raised a record \$106,500 for crime prevention and awareness programs.

Bloomington Crime Prevention Association is seeking grant applications for crime prevention initiatives through September 3. For more information, visit www.bcpamn.org.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, AUGUST 2010

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INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE
THE ROAD TO REDEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL

By Mayor Gene Winstead

People invest in homes and businesses in communities where they feel safe. If they have children, they also invest in communities that provide good schools and recreation.

The best way we have found to support residential neighborhoods is to provide services that help keep the housing stock in good shape. We do this through building and property maintenance inspections and by providing transitional support services to those in need. Top-value services such as police and fire help people feel safe in their homes, and street maintenance keeps them safe as they travel in the community.

Overall, Bloomington’s housing market has shown some growth over the past decade. Even with the downturn, a look at the 10-year trend shows that Bloomington’s median home value has increased 36 percent from 2001 - 2010. Values peaked in 2007 with greater than 10 percent increases in 2001 and 2002. Growth moderated to 7.8 percent in 2005 and a little more than 1 percent in 2007 before decreases began in 2008. Sales data is reviewed annually, and values are adjusted to reflect market trends.

Changes in retail shopping patterns have a marked impact on our older neighborhood commercial centers, not just in Bloomington or in our neighboring communities, but across the metro, the state and nationwide. This has resulted in vacancies in many retail buildings developed in the 1960s and 1970s.

We have also seen the impact of globalization on Bloomington’s

Revitalization of France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road began in 1998.



manufacturing industry, with companies moving their businesses not just to neighboring communities and other states, but offshore in order to be able to remain competitive with their products.

While much of our commercial property is robust, some locations need assistance to redevelop. The areas of 84th Street and Lyndale Avenue, as well as France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road, have recently been revitalized. The City is also preparing a district plan for the area along American Boulevard between Penn Avenue and I-35W. The City needs to assist in transformations when appropriate, while remaining careful not to favor one business over another in the community. It is a delicate balance that must be achieved in order for the community to continue to thrive.

In Bloomington, reinvestment in streets, facilities and utilities began



in the early 1990s with a Pavement Management Program (PMP), which was designed to rehabilitate our streets through a cost-effective program of sealcoating, overlaying and reconstruction.

Facilities reinvestment began with Fire Station #1 in the early 1990s, along with the water treatment plant and Civic Plaza buildings at the turn of the 21st century. While we have accomplished specific utilities reinvestments, we are now developing the equivalent of the PMP program to rehab and reinvest in utilities infrastructure when it is most cost effective.

In guiding Bloomington to a more sustainable future, the City’s main objectives are to provide the best possible services to the community, while reinvesting in our infrastructure and in older areas that are no longer competitive in today’s market. This is the best way to support long-term property values, while keeping property taxes for City services competitive.

BRIEFING

Volume 18, Number 3

The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; [E-MAIL jhill@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:jhill@ci.bloomington.mn.us). Website: www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

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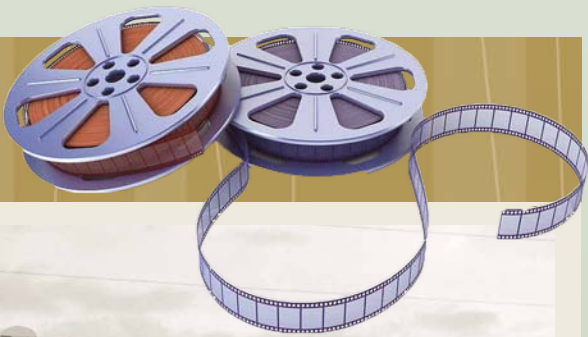
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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.

BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY
AT THE MOVIES AT SOUTHTOWN



In 1964, if you wanted to see Julie Andrews singing about a spoonful of sugar in “Mary Poppins,” Audrey Hepburn trying to lose her cockney accent in “My Fair Lady” or Clint Eastwood playing The Man with No Name in “A Fistful of Dollars,” you need not have gone any further than the Mann Southtown Theatre.

Located on the corner of Penn Avenue and I-494, the Mann Southtown was owned by Marvin Mann, whose brother Ted Mann opened a string of theaters, including the historic Grauman’s Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles. Marvin Mann founded Mann Theatres in 1935 and, in the years following, opened theaters throughout the Twin Cities, many of which still exist today. The Southtown Theater, was a grand venue with an outdoor box office. The extra-large marquee spanning the entire front of the building announced current



In 1968, Doris Day and Brian Keith’s family comedy “With Six You Get Eggroll” was a hit at the box offices across the nation, including Bloomington’s own Southtown Theatre.

showings in bright lights. According to *City Page’s* “The Last Picture Show,” the auditorium seated 1,200 in plush rocker chairs and the back eight rows had ashtrays built into the seats. In the ladies’ room, each stall had its own sink and makeup mirror.

Mann’s Southtown Theatre was closed in 1995 and razed soon

thereafter. The area where the theater once stood, now known as the Penn–American District, is still a popular destination, although now people visit there for coffee and bagels and to shop the many retail outlets.

Mann’s theater may be gone, but the Penn–American District continues to shine.

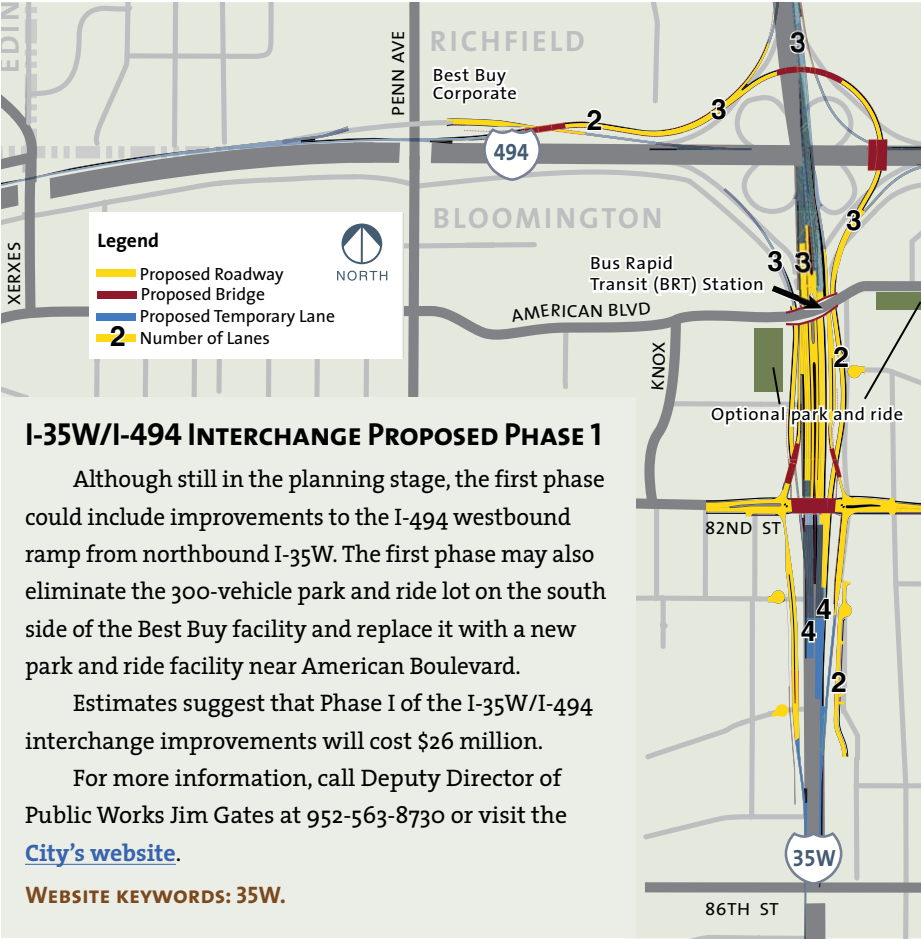


The I-35W/I-494 interchange is one of the most congested, unsafe interchanges in Minnesota. It was designed in the 1950s, constructed in the early 1960s and has undergone very few modifications since. Today, nearly 500,000 vehicles pass through the interchange daily. More than 30 percent of the day the interchange is severely congested, resulting in a number of vehicle crashes.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has created a preliminary design for reconstructing the I-35W/I-494 interchange. Based on a plan by MnDOT, a major component of the reconstruction will include a “turbine” design that can be implemented in phases, allowing for the possibility of it being funded by federal, state, regional and local agencies.

RELIEF IS COMING

INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS MOVING FORWARD



I-35W/I-494 INTERCHANGE PROPOSED PHASE 1

Although still in the planning stage, the first phase could include improvements to the I-494 westbound ramp from northbound I-35W. The first phase may also eliminate the 300-vehicle park and ride lot on the south side of the Best Buy facility and replace it with a new park and ride facility near American Boulevard.

Estimates suggest that Phase I of the I-35W/I-494 interchange improvements will cost \$26 million.

For more information, call Deputy Director of Public Works Jim Gates at 952-563-8730 or visit the [City’s website](#).

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: 35W.



ON PATROL

OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES KNOW THE LAW



Due to the popularity of certain recreational vehicles such as scooters, mini-bikes and go-carts, the City has established new rules regarding the use of these vehicles.

Recreational vehicles can be used within the boundaries of Bloomington only on private property with the owner’s permission or on designated areas as approved by the City Council. A recreational vehicle is any vehicle powered by a motor of 25cc or less that can travel more than 20 m.p.h. This includes trail bikes, mini-bikes, go-carts, scooters and skateboards known as “powerboards.”

It is unlawful to use a recreational motor vehicle when:

- On publicly owned land, or on private property without the owner’s written permission.
- On any public street, sidewalk, walkway, highway or right-of-way.
- Within 150 yards of any public recreation area or gathering of people.
- Under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances.

The law also states that:

- Vehicles cannot be so loud as to disturb the peace.
- No one under 14 years old shall cross any street, highway or public right-of-way while riding such a vehicle.

For more information, call Officer Heidi Miller at 952-563-4975.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: RECREATIONAL VEHICLE LAWS.

SAFETY FIRST BB AND PELLET GUNS



The Bloomington Police Department (BPD) has recently experienced an increase in calls related to the use of airsoft, BB and pellet guns.

These guns all fit into the definition of “dangerous weapons” set forth by the City Code. This class of weapon includes rifles, pistols and shotguns that use compressed gas or spring-driven pistons to propel plastic or steel pellets.

The City Code prohibits discharging or using a weapon in Bloomington. For more information, call the BPD at 952-563-8834.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: GUNS.

STUDYING TRAFFIC OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 27



Are you concerned about traffic on local streets? The City’s Traffic Management Program uses techniques to try to alleviate neighborhood traffic concerns. Two neighborhoods will be selected for the 2011 program.

Eligible neighborhoods may request traffic management devices that may decrease motor vehicle use on their streets, reduce traffic speed and improve safety.

An open house will be held **Monday, September 27, 5 - 7 p.m.**, in the Public Works Training Room, 1700 West 98th Street.

For more information, call Paul Jarvis at 952-563-4548. Application deadline is February 7, 2011.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: TRAFFIC OPEN HOUSE.

MAKING STRIDES

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL THE WAY TO A BETTER FUTURE

The City of Bloomington, with the help of a grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, has developed an *Alternative Transportation Plan* that encourages walking, biking and other modes of transportation. *See page 1.*

New data from the U.S. Department of Transportation shows that both bicycling and walking trips have increased in the U.S. by 25 percent since 2001. Walking and cycling trails have played a vital role in connecting businesses and residential areas to open spaces and making commuting more enjoyable. At the same time, medical research has shown that walking and cycling have significant health benefits for older residents.

The Plan’s Strategic priorities include:

- Enhancing pedestrian access to schools through the Safe Routes to School program.
- Designing and building new and existing destination and linking trails.
- Improving natural surface trails along the Minnesota River Valley.
- Reconfiguring some streets to be more accommodating for bikeways.
- Removing barriers that prevent people from walking and biking.

The City is currently seeking funding to implement these initiatives. For more information, contact City Engineer Shelly Pederson at 952-563-4866 or e-mail spederson@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION.



RIDING YOUR BIKE JUST GOT EASIER NEW BIKE RACKS INSTALLED AROUND THE CITY

Looking for a secure spot to park your bike at school or around town? Check out the new bike racks at Jefferson High School, Poplar Bridge Elementary, Valley View Elementary, Civic Plaza, Bush Lake Beach and the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center.

The new racks provide secure, accessible bike parking when you’d prefer to pedal your way around. Funding for the bike racks was provided by the Bloomington, Edina and Richfield Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP).

SHIP is part of Minnesota’s health reform law that funds projects to achieve long-lasting environmental and policy changes supporting a healthy lifestyle.

For more information, contact SHIP Coordinator Ruth Tripp at 952-563-8742.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: SHIP.

YARD WASTE REMINDER
STATE LAW REQUIRES USE OF
COMPOSTABLE BAGS



The plastic bags typically used to collect fall leaves are no longer accepted by garbage haulers in Bloomington.

In 2010, a new state law went into effect, requiring all metro-area residents to use compostable bags for yard waste. All seven metro counties are included.

Why use compostable bags? Compostable bags, unlike typical plastic bags, biodegrade or naturally break down at compost sites, creating less waste.

The new law applies to all residents who bag their yard waste for pickup. Those who don't have yard waste or who choose to compost their waste themselves will not be affected.

Haulers are required to leave behind yard waste that has been collected in non-compostable plastic yard bags.

Compostable bags are available at most retail stores.

For more information, contact Hennepin County Environmental Services at 612-348-3777 or desmail@co.hennepin.mn.us.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: COMPOSTABLE BAGS.

DID YOU KNOW?
COMPOSTING FOR A
HEALTHY YARD



Don't feel like bagging up all those mounds of raked leaves and clumps of grass clippings? Compost them instead. Think of it as a resource – one that will help keep your flowers blooming and your yard healthy and beautiful, year after year.

For more information on composting, visit www.rethinkrecycling.com.

Whether it's saving energy or guarding Bloomington's precious natural resources, Earth Action Heroes make a difference. Here are your neighbors in action...

EARTH ACTION HEROES
THE CREEKSIDE WOODWORKERS

There are more than 50 members who use the Creekside Community Center wood shop; some come a few times a year, some a few times a week. Most don't know each other outside of Creekside, yet they all have at least two things in common: the badge they wear around their necks indicating they are authorized to use the powerful saws in the shop and their use of recycled wood.

Stan Cramer, pictured second from right, is a leader in the wood shop. He's spent every Thursday for the past 20 years there, volunteering his time to repair tables, chairs, doors and other wooden items for Creekside. Cramer also makes his own jewelry boxes and puzzles.

Cramer's most recent project, which he collaborated on with Ed Spot and Creekside Coordinator Sean O'Neil, included repairing and creating wood duck houses for Parks Maintenance to install in and around City parks.

"There is a lot of measuring and cutting involved in birdhouses," Cramer said. "I had to call the University of Minnesota to find out exactly the right size holes to make to attract bluebirds."

Cramer and Spot spent nearly three days on the wood duck houses project.



"We're always working on something different and it's sustainable because we're reusing material."

They already have their next project lined up, repairing the wooden obstacles used to train Bloomington Police dogs.

"I enjoy it here because we're always working on something different and it's sustainable because we're reusing materials," Cramer said.

Yet Cramer is quick to add that the work is not always easy.

"This is hard work – 90 percent of woodworking is measuring and planning before you cut," Cramer said. "A lot of guys don't take the time to do the prep work."

Lenn Lacher, pictured center, started visiting the wood shop when he retired in 2004. He can be found there three or four days a week working on various projects. Lacher enters his creations in the senior crafts contest at the State Fair every year. Last year he won a blue ribbon.

"People throw out so many things that they could easily fix," Lacher said.

"I take wood scraps from people all the time and make them into something."

Stop by the Creekside Boutique and you're sure to find one of Harold Gustafson's wooden Easter crosses, pictured at left. Gustafson carves the crosses in just two or three hours using wood he acquires from various family members. Gustafson's most recent creation was made using a large piece of black walnut.

"I got this wood from my brother-in-law," Gustafson said. "He was going to burn it."

David Kesler, pictured second from left, has been using the wood shop for five years. He once made a coffee table for his living room using a pair of old closet doors he found during the City's Curbside Cleanup.

The wood may be used, but it's anything but old. Once these woodworkers are done with it, whether it's used to make birdhouses, sellable crafts, or furniture, discarded wood will find new life at the Creekside wood shop.

RIISING TO THE SURFACE
FILAMENTOUS ALGAE APPEAR ON CITY LAKES AND PONDS

They may not be pretty, but filamentous algae are important to the health of Bloomington's water bodies.

Filamentous algae provide habitat for small animals such as aquatic insects, snails, and scuds, which are valuable fish food.

What exactly are filamentous algae? Sometimes called "pond scum," filamentous algae are masses of long, stringy, green or brown strands found in ponds, shorelines and backwaters.

This summer, a combination of factors, including low lake levels, water clarity and water temperature has produced a large population of filamentous algae. Their growth begins on submerged objects on the pond bottom. As they grow, algae produce oxygen that becomes entrapped by the algae mat. This

provides buoyancy, floating the algae to the surface, where they frequently cover large areas of the pond.

Although it may not be pleasing in appearance and in rare cases may cause odor problems, filamentous algae do not produce toxins and do not pose a health threat. They are often a persistent problem because algae reproduce rapidly and have a 30- to 60-day life cycle. The amount of algae in a lake or pond depends on the nutrient levels, particularly phosphorus, in the water.

Bloomington's lakes and ponds are a source of pride and beauty for the entire community. The City has practices and policies to improve water quality and preserve beneficial uses of wetlands, including recreation and wildlife habitat.



For more information, call Bloomington Engineering Technician Bryan Gruidl at 952-563-4557 or visit the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website at www.dnr.state.mn.us.

RECREATIONAL FIRES
REMEMBER TO CONSIDER
YOUR NEIGHBORS



Recreational fires are permitted in Bloomington, as in all counties in Minnesota, and continue to be a source of entertainment and relaxation. However, under the wrong conditions, one resident's enjoyment can become another resident's annoyance. Before starting a recreational fire, remember the three W's of the City ordinance: *when, where* and *wood*.

When

- Recreational fires may only be conducted between 7 a.m. and midnight and when the wind speed is less than 10 miles per hour.
- A recreational fire must be extinguished immediately if a City official determines it is creating a fire safety hazard.

Where

- Fires must be located 25 feet away from any structures or combustible materials.
- Fires must be constantly attended to by a person within sight of the flames.
- Fire extinguishing equipment must be readily available.

Wood

- City ordinance limits fuel for recreational fires to dry, clean wood such as cordwood or Presto logs.
- Burning wood that has leaves or needles or wood that is rotten, wet or treated with paint or glue is prohibited. These materials produce excessive smoke and odor.
- Starter fuels consisting of dry, untreated kindling or charcoal starter may be used, but never use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start a fire.
- Firewood stacks must not exceed three feet wide by two feet high.
- Remember to use only local wood to prevent the spread of Emerald Ash Borers.

For more information, call Fire Prevention at 952-563-8933.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS:
RECREATIONAL FIRES.



FIRE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION



Did you know that once or twice a year, the Bloomington Fire Department (BFD) drives one of its largest ladder trucks right into the Mall of America? The BFD visits the Mall to conduct mock rescue scenarios involving a Nickelodeon Universe theme park ride.

This past June, 35 Bloomington firefighters and eight Edina firefighters conducted a training drill using the Tak Attack ride. Formerly called the Mighty Axe, the Tak Attack thrill ride flips riders upside down and towers more than 10 stories above the ground.

“We worked for about five hours on what would happen in different scenarios,” Bloomington Fire Chief Ulie Seal said. “The drill also entailed positioning one of Bloomington’s ladder trucks in the amusement park.”

According to Seal, mock rescue scenarios are needed to familiarize first responders with the larger rides in the unlikely case that one of them malfunctions and riders need to be rescued. Rides chosen for the drills are larger rides that have limited access from the ground.

For more information, contact the BFD at 952-563-4801.



MEET VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER DIANE PURCELL

The Bloomington Fire Department has an average response time of only 4.1 minutes and is one of the largest volunteer fire departments in the nation. Just one of the 140 volunteer firefighters working to keep you safe, Diane Purcell answers questions below.

How long have you been a firefighter?	I’ve been a firefighter for nine years. I’m also a Fire Prevention Officer at Station 4, which means I go to schools, churches, daycares and other places to teach fire safety. My husband John is also a firefighter.
What do you tell the kids you teach?	As a mom of two boys, I know how to talk to kids about the importance of having a home plan and how to be safe. I teach them how to call 911 and stop, drop and roll.
What made you decide to become a firefighter?	I saw an advertisement in the <i>Sun Current</i> , so I went to the City’s website and applied. My uncle is a retired Rochester firefighter. He thought it was a great deal.
Do you find your job challenging?	Yes. I find my job really fun, too. Doing a good job is most important to me, especially being a woman. I’m a strong person, but sometimes I still feel like I have to prove myself. I remember my first fire in 2000 at the old Decathlon Athletic Club and Hotel, where the Water Park of America is now located. It was a huge fire. I didn’t want to get out of the truck. I was scared, but I had a lot of support. Now when I get off the truck, I’m confident.
Do you have a day job?	I work Monday through Friday at Station 4 and seasonally for Sun Country Airlines as a de-icer at the airport. I also work as a hair stylist at Great Clips. I like my jobs because I can make my own hours. And I’m a mom. That’s work too.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: JOIN FIRE DEPARTMENT.



WEBSITE GOES TO THE DOGS (AND CATS!)
ADOPTABLE ANIMALS ONLINE

The City’s website is now more pet-friendly. A new Animal Control page on the City’s website includes a listing of the Animal Shelter’s adoptable pets. Check out descriptions and photos of cats and dogs available for adoption right from your computer.

Nearly 600 domestic and non-domestic animals from Bloomington are impounded at the animal shelter each year. Most animals are released back to their owners, but some need permanent homes. If you’re looking to add a pet to your family, consider adopting from the Bloomington Animal Shelter. Availability varies. Check the website often for updates.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: ANIMAL ADOPTION.



WILD BLOOMINGTON
KNOW WHEN TO CALL
ANIMAL CONTROL

Many animals such as deer, fox, opossums, wild turkeys, raccoons, squirrels and other wildlife call Bloomington home.

Each year the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) receives calls regarding wild animals. While wild animals contribute to our enjoyment of nature, they may also damage property and threaten human health and safety. BPD animal control officers will respond to wild animal calls under the following conditions:

- **Immediate hazard** – An animal is interfering with your ability to gain access to a private or public property.
- **Sick or injured wildlife** – Police response is determined by the degree of injury and the animal’s species.
- **Threat to public safety** – An animal showing aggressive behavior or suspected of having rabies.

To control the presence of wildlife in your area, do not feed animals; make sure all outdoor trash container lids are sealed tightly and keep door and window screens in good condition.

For more information, call Animal Control at 952-563-4942.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: WILD ANIMALS.

MAKE YOUR
HARDWOOD SHINE
FREE SEMINAR OFFERED



Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) will host a free seminar about hardwood floor refinishing on **Thursday, August 26, 7 p.m.**, in the Civic Plaza Rehearsal Hall, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

Taught by a professional hardwood floor refinisher, this one-hour seminar will focus on the steps and procedures involved in refinishing your hardwood floors the right way. Door prizes will be given away at the end of the session.

For more information, call Tom Holman at 952-563-8941.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HRA SEMINARS.

STAYBRIDGE SUITES HONORED
HOTEL RANKED #6 IN EXPEDIA.COM TRAVELER SURVEY

Staybridge Suites, 5150 American Boulevard West, was ranked sixth on Expedia.com’s 2010 Insiders’ Select Survey, an annual ranking of the world’s best hotels for quality and value as determined by traveler reviews. One of only two hotels in the United States recognized, Staybridge Suites beat out more than 123,000 hotels for the honor.

The Insiders’ Select program uses opinions from reviews submitted by Expedia customers after completing a stay at a hotel booked on Expedia sites; traveler reviews are the most influential factor in the formula.

Expedia.com uses a value rating that compares each property’s average daily rates to similar properties to assess the relative value the hotel offers, making it easy for busy travelers to identify hotels that deliver an excellent experience at a comparatively good value.

“We could not be more proud of our team at Staybridge Suites Bloomington,” said Mitch Peterson, president of Torgerson Properties, owner and operator of the hotel.



“Guest value and satisfaction are key elements of our core values. This well-deserved recognition is a tribute to the commitment of our Staybridge Suites.”



HOSPITALITY: BLOOMINGTON’S
NUMBER ONE INDUSTRY

Did you know that Bloomington has more hotel rooms than Minneapolis and St. Paul combined? In fact, Bloomington has the largest concentration of hotel rooms in Minnesota.

In the second quarter of 2009, there were almost 8,500 leisure and hospitality jobs in the community.

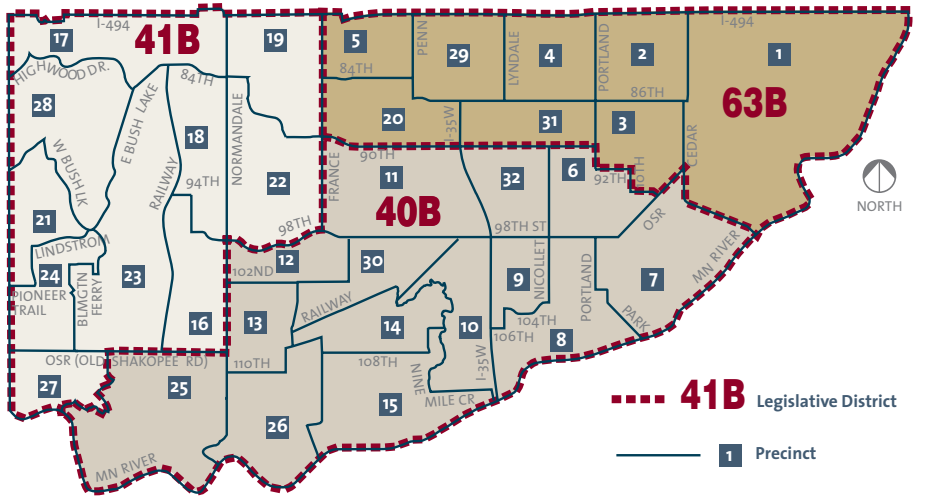
With 8,000 hotel rooms, the city’s hotel guest population on any given night exceeds the population of 87 percent of the communities in Minnesota.



EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS! GET OUT AND VOTE!

2010 BLOOMINGTON POLLING PLACES

POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.



2010 CHANGES

NEW DATE FOR PRIMARY
ELECTION – AUGUST 10

The 2010 Primary Election will be held **Tuesday, August 10**, as a result of new legislation passed by the Minnesota Legislature.

PRECINCT 1 LOCATION CHANGE

Voters in Precinct 1 will return to their normal polling location at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center, 3815 American Boulevard East.

PRIMARY ELECTION

The partisan Primary Election will determine the nominees to be placed on the November 2 General Election ballot for the three major political parties for certain state offices, including Lieutenant Governor and Governor.

SAMPLE BALLOT

Sample ballots are available to view online.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: VOTING.

VOTING ASSISTANCE

Tell the election judges if you need assistance at the polling places. All sites are accessible and have AutoMARK voter-assist terminals to help voters who have disabilities in marking the optical scan paper ballot.

Precinct/Polling location	
19	St. Stephen Lutheran Church 8400 France Avenue South
20	Washburn Elementary School 8401 Xerxes Avenue South
21	Sunrise Park Shelter 9401 Bloomington Ferry Road
22	Normandale Hills Elementary School 9501 Toledo Avenue South
23	Community of the Cross Lutheran Church 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road
24	Bloomington Lutheran School 10600 Bloomington Ferry Road
25	Bethany Missionary Church 6900 Auto Club Road
26	Southwood Center 4901 West 112th Street
27	Bethany Missionary Gymnasium 6900 Auto Club Road
28	Bloomington Fire Station #6 8601 Lakeview Road
29	Christ the King Lutheran Church 8600 Fremont Avenue South
30	Oak Grove Presbyterian Church 2200 West Old Shakopee Road
31	St. Bonaventure Catholic Church 901 East 90th Street (Social Hall)
32	Oxboro Evangelical Free Church 9431 Nicollet Avenue South

Precinct/Polling location	
1	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center 3815 American Boulevard East
2	Portland Avenue Methodist Church 8000 Portland Avenue South
3	Cedar Valley Church 8600 Bloomington Avenue
4	Unity South Church 7950 1st Avenue South
5	Southtown Baptist Church 2600 West 82nd Street
6	Bloomington Lutheran Church 9350 Portland Avenue South
7	Indian Mounds Elementary School 9801 - 11th Avenue South
8	Riverside Reformed Church 10201 Nicollet Avenue South
9	Nativity of Mary School 9901 East Bloomington Freeway
10	St. Luke’s Lutheran Church 1701 West Old Shakopee Road
11	Bloomington National Guard Armory 3300 West 98th Street
12	Crosspoint Church 9801 France Avenue South
13	Hubert Olson Elementary School 4501 West 102nd Street
14	Mount Hope Lutheran Church 3601 West Old Shakopee Road
15	Westwood Elementary School 3701 West 108th Street
16	Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church 9920 Normandale Boulevard South
17	Peace Lutheran Church 8600 East Bush Lake Road
18	The Church of St. Edward’s 9401 Nesbitt Avenue South

VOTING INFORMATION: 952-563-8729 – WWW.BLOOMINGTON.MN.US, KEYWORD: VOTING

CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT 952-563-8877 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.



THANK YOU SUMMER FETE SPONSORS!

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Airport West
All Seasons Wild Bird Store
Bloomington Convention & Crowne Plaza - Minneapolis
David Fong's Restaurant
Eagle Mechanical
Feldmann Imports
Friendship Village of Bloomington
Gyropolis, Inc.
Haskell's
IHOP
Mall of America
Micron Molding, Inc.
Mikkelson Construction
Normandale Community College
Plekkenpol Builders, Inc.
Raindance Sprinkler Systems
The Gold Guys
Urban Communications
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Visitors Bureau
Walmart
Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels & Cremation Services

PATRON-LEVEL AND ABOVE SPONSORS

Rand Brugger
Thomas and Elizabeth Flavin
Mark Gang
William Hawkins
John and Julie Heinmiller
Joyce Jeffcock
Steve and Amy Nelson
Steven Peterson
John Weinard
Kathlean Zinnel

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

LET'S PLAY BALL
TORO GRANDSTAND AT RED HADDOX FIELD IS OPEN

The old Metropolitan Stadium may be gone and the Twins have a new stadium in Minneapolis, but baseball is alive and well in Bloomington at Red Haddox Field.

After years of planning and months of work, the Toro Grandstand at Red Haddox Field, 9000 Portland Avenue South, held its first game on April 26 and an open house on July 10.

According to Parks and Recreation Assistant Manager Greg Boatman, both events drew large crowds.

"Red Haddox has always been one of the best baseball fields in the metro, but the spectator area needed work," Boatman said.

"Now, thanks to the support of all the businesses, neighbors, sports organizations and City employees that stepped up to the plate, we have a top-tier grandstand and a top-tier field."

The project included a new grandstand with 500 seats, a press box, new dug-outs, backstop and a 40-foot net to catch stray baseballs.

The field will host junior varsity and varsity teams and town team baseball.

The site improvements were paid for through a donation from the Toro Corporation, a Hennepin County Youth Sports grant and money from the Beaverbrook Park Mitigation Fund.

The original plan for the project was much larger in scope, according to Boatman. As a result, residents and baseball groups are looking to fund a second phase to install concession stands, restrooms and a bullpen. Boatman said the City is exploring cost



estimates to see if a second phase is possible.

"Our goal is to make Bloomington a real home for baseball," Boatman said. "This project demonstrates what the City is doing across the parks system."

For more information, contact Parks and Recreation.



ACTIVITIES FOR ALL!

ADULT AND YOUTH SPORTS

WOMEN'S AND CO-REC VOLLEYBALL

Summer may soon be over, but you can still enjoy volleyball in Bloomington. Leagues are forming now. Beginning in October and continuing through mid-December, leagues meet Monday through

Thursday evenings at an indoor location to be determined. All matches are officiated. Cost is \$250 for residents and \$305 for nonresidents.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Each year, the Bloomington Athletic Association inducts one or more persons into the Sports Hall of Fame. The award honors men and women who have contributed their time and energy to the growth of amateur sports.

When: Thursday, October 7.
Where: Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 West 79th Street.

For more information, call Dan Wallerus at 952-884-6675.



CENTER FOR THE ARTS

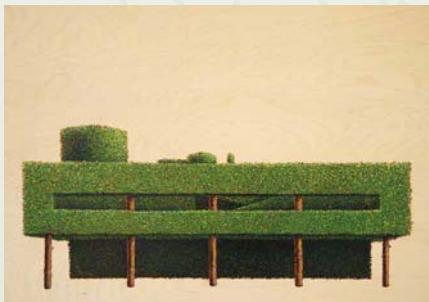
Located in Bloomington Civic Plaza at the corner of West 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing six arts organizations. For facility information, call 952-563-8889.

For exhibit information and events, visit www.bloomingtonartcenter.com and click on Exhibitions, or call 952-563-8567.

EXHIBITIONS

Hours:	M - F	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
	Sa	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
	Su	1 - 10 p.m.

INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY



Villa by David Lefkowitz.

Impact, featuring the works of artists Peter L. Johnson, Michael Karekan and David Lefkowitz, runs through August 27.

The Women's Art Registry of Minnesota Mentor Exhibition, featuring the works of professional female artists and their protégés, runs September 3 - October 8.



Copper Vessel by Ellen Star.

ATRIUM GALLERY

Swooning the Swagger, featuring the paintings of artist Kate Van Cleve, runs through September 19.



Atlantis #7 by Jes Lee.

Digital Dreams of Life, featuring the work of artist Jessica Lee Shimek, runs September 23 - November 14. An artists' reception takes place September 23, 6 - 8 p.m.

ANGELICA YOUTH CHOIR AUDITIONS



Auditions for the 2010 - 2011 season are now taking place for youth singers in grades 2 - 12. For more information, call Andrea Dittmer at 952-563-8572 or visit www.angelicacantanti.org.

AR&LE



The Adaptive Recreation & Learning Exchange (AR&LE) provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities living in Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield to participate in recreational and educational programs that are specially designed to meet varied ability levels. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: AR&LE.

BLOOMINGTON
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

MARY BETH CARLSON

Join national recording artist and composer Mary Beth Carlson in celebrating her 21st CD of piano orchestral music, **Saturday, September 25.**

CC SEPTET

CC Septet, a high-energy jazz septet known for its creative compositions presents *She’s Big in Egypt*, **Sunday, September 26.**

RUBBER SOUL - THE TRIBUTE

Rubber Soul’s Beatles tribute concert spectacular, **Saturday, October 2.**

MONROE CROSSING



Hear the Midwest’s top bluegrass and gospel quintet, **Saturday, October 9.**

WOLVERINES WITH BUTCH MILES

Big band jazz features drummer Butch Miles, the Wolverines and vocalist Judy Donaghy, **Sunday, October 10.**

EAST SIDE

Jazz quartet East Side presents *From Miles to Astor*, a fusion of 1960s Blue Note jazz with Tango and Latin influences, **Sunday, January 23. BB**

HOLLYWOOD CABARET – THE 30s

Arne Fogel, Nichola Miller and Maud Hixson, featuring Tanner Taylor on piano, celebrate the era of the great Hollywood musical, **Saturday and Sunday, January 29 - 30. BB**

LAURA CAVIANI



Acclaimed jazz pianist Laura Caviani celebrates the songs of Alec Wilder, **Sunday, February 20.**

HOLLYWOOD CABARET – THE 40s

Arne Fogel, Jennifer Eckes, Maud Hixson and the Rick Carlson Duo perform classic songs from the silver screen, **Saturday and Sunday, February 26 - 27. BB**

HOLLYWOOD CABARET - THE 50s

Arne Fogel, Connie Evingson, Connie Olson and the Tanner Taylor Duo present classic movie music, **Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27. BB**

BARBARY COAST



Welcome back the Barbary Coast as they present an all new show of classic Dixieland jazz, **Saturday, June 11.**

2010 - 2011
PERFORMANCE SERIES

This year the Bloomington Center for the Arts Performance Series is more exciting than ever! The series includes excellent theater, band and chorale concerts, as well as jazz and cabaret concerts, featuring great songs from the cinema. All performances are held in the wheelchair-accessible Schneider or Black Box theaters, located in the Bloomington Center for the Arts at the corner of 98th Street and West Old Shakopee Road.

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	ADULT	SENIOR/ STUDENT
2010					
TH - SA	Sept 17 - Oct 9	7:30 p.m.	Steel Magnolias	\$18	\$16
SU	Sept 19 - Oct 10	2 p.m.	Steel Magnolias	\$18	\$16
SA	Sept 25	7:30 p.m.	Mary Beth Carlson	\$20	\$17
SU	Sept 26	2 p.m.	CC Septet	\$22	\$19
SA	Oct 2	7:30 p.m.	Rubber Soul - The Tribute	\$20	\$17
SA	Oct 9	7:30 p.m.	Monroe Crossing	\$25	\$22
SU	Oct 10	2 p.m.	Wolverines with Butch Miles	\$25	\$22
SU	Nov 21	4 p.m.	A Salute to Veterans	\$12	\$10
TH - SA	Dec 3 - 18	7:30 p.m.	On Our Own	\$18	\$16
SU	Dec 5 - 19	2 p.m.	On Our Own	\$18	\$16
SA	Dec 18	7:30 p.m.	Vivaldi’s Gloria	\$14	\$10
SU	Dec 19	4 p.m.	Vivaldi’s Gloria	\$14	\$10
M	Dec 20	7 p.m.	Sounds of the Season	\$12	\$10
2011					
SU	Jan 23	2 p.m.	East Side	\$18	\$16
SA	Jan 29	7:30 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 30s	\$18	\$16
SU	Jan 30	2 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 30s	\$18	\$16
SU	Feb 20	2 p.m.	Laura Caviani	\$22	\$19
SU	Feb 27	4 p.m.	Angelica Cantanti	\$25	
SA	Feb 26	7:30 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 40s	\$18	\$16
SU	Feb 27	2 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 40s	\$18	\$16
SU	Mar 6	4 p.m.	At the Circus	\$12	\$10
SA	Mar 26	7:30 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 50s	\$18	\$16
SU	Mar 27	2 p.m.	Hollywood Cabaret - The 50s	\$18	\$16
SA	Apr 9	7:30 p.m.	Mozart’s Requiem	\$14	\$10
SU	Apr 10	4 p.m.	Mozart’s Requiem	\$14	\$10
SU	Apr 17	4 p.m.	Words into Music	\$12	\$10
TH - SA	May 20 - Jun 11	7:30 p.m.	Twelve Angry Men	\$18	\$16
SU	May 22 - Jun 12	2 p.m.	Twelve Angry Men	\$18	\$16
SA	Jun 11	7:30 p.m.	Barbary Coast	\$25	\$22



Go to our website, click on [E-Subscribe](#) and sign up for Center for the Arts e-mail updates!

CREATE A SERIES AND
SAVE UP TO 20%

Order tickets to four or more events to create a performance series MultiPass and save \$2 per ticket. This offer may be applied to adult and senior/ student tickets, but may not be combined with other discounts.

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER TICKETS

- 1 By phone: Call the Bloomington Box Office at 952-563-8575.
- 2 Online: Visit www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org, select “Tickets and Registration” followed by “Order Tickets.”
- 3 In person: Call 952-563-8575 for box office hours. Due to the seasonal nature of our organization, box office hours change according to demand.

Orders received less than seven days prior to the performance will be held for pickup at the box office. Programs and artists are subject to change. All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges allowed.

ANGELICA CANTANTI
YOUTH CHOIRS
CD RELEASE FUNDRAISER CONCERT



Celebrating their 30th season, singers and alumni present a special concert and CD release party, **Sunday, February 27.**

BLOOMINGTON CHORALE

VIVALDI’S GLORIA
AN OLD TIME RADIO CHRISTMAS

Whether you remember when radio ruled the airwaves or read about it in History 101, your toes will be tapping, **Saturday and Sunday, December 18 - 19.**

MOZART’S REQUIEM
LOVE THROUGH THE AGES

Romance is ageless and so are beautiful songs inspired by love, **Saturday and Sunday, April 9 - 10.**

MEDALIST CONCERT BAND



A SALUTE TO VETERANS

This program honors our U.S. armed forces personnel, **Sunday, November 21.**

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Celebrate the holidays, **Monday, December 20.**

AT THE CIRCUS

The Big Top comes alive through music by Karl King, Harry L. Alford and Henry Fillmore, **Sunday, March 6.**

WORDS INTO MUSIC

Enjoy literature-inspired compositions by Aaron Copland, David Del Tredici and others, **Sunday, April 17.**

BLOOMINGTON THEATRE
AND ART CENTER



Tenacity and purposefulness underlie the hilarious banter, **Thursdays - Sundays, September 17 - October 10. BB**

ON OUR OWN

The area’s newest cabaret group NEO presents a fresh look at the holidays, **Thursdays - Sundays, December 3 - 19. BB**

TWELVE ANGRY MEN

This dramatic testament demonstrates the value of integrity, **Thursdays - Sundays, May 20 - June 12. BB**

BB Indicates performance takes place in the Black Box Theater.